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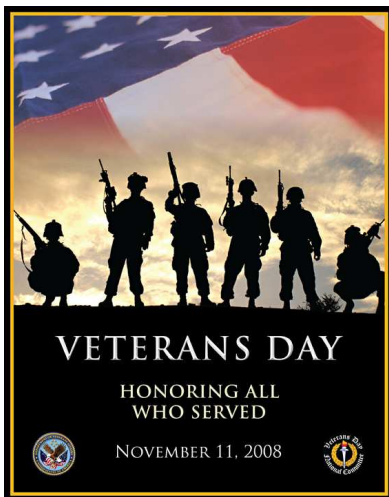
November 2008

## NOVEMBER CLUB MEETING LOCATION CHANGE



General Meeting Location - The November 2008 monthly general membership meeting will be held at Fargo's Pizza Co, 2910 E Platte Ave. The club will provide pizza for all members in good standing and first time visitors. Program will be HF Operations from Greenland. There is no meeting in December, instead is the PPRAA Holiday Party. The January meeting will return to Panera Bread. 73's Doug

Newly Elected Officers: **President:** Doug Nielsen, N7LEM, **Vice President:** Dave Moore, KØDAM, **Secretary:** John Wishart, KCØJFH, **Treasurer:** Dennis Rosas ACØIV, **Board Member:** Dan Scott WØRO



## **Veterans Day November 11<sup>th</sup> 2008**

World War One officially ended on November 11, 1918 at 11 am. The day was given the name "Armistice Day" in honor of the peace. Armistice means "truce" or the end of hostilities. On November 11th, 1919, President Woodrow Wilson marked the occasion with public celebrations and a two-minute halt to business at 11 AM. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was dedicated in Arlington Cemetery on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 1921. National observance was made official in 1938 when Congress made Armistice Day a national holiday. In 1954, President Dwight Eisenhower changed the name of Armistice Day to Veterans Day.

### **November Ham Breakfast November First 2008**

**\_Country Buffet  
751 North Academy  
(Citadel Crossing)  
8:00 am - 9:30 am**

### **Ham Cram, or the One- Day Tech Class**

by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I used to be skeptical of one-day ham radio classes, sometimes called "Ham Cram" classes. After teaching a couple of these classes over the past year, however, I've become a supporter of this method of teaching, at least for the Technician Class license test. One reason I'm an advocate of the one-day class is that I think a lot of people "learn by doing." I'm not an expert on pedagogy, but my guess is that more people learn by doing than learn by reading or by listening. That being the case, isn't it a good thing that new hams get their licenses quickly so that they can begin doing--thereby learning--more quickly? Second, people are busy. Tell them that the class is going to eat up one evening a week for six to eight weeks and a lot of them will tell you that they just don't have the time to do it. Squeezing in six to eight hours on a Saturday is, however, something that they

can do. Critics of the one-day classes say that if people just cram for the test, they may learn enough for just long enough to pass the test, but they really don't know enough to be "good hams," whatever that may be. There's some truth to this. It's important not to abandon them once they get their tickets. I encourage all of the students to join a ham radio club and make myself available to answer any questions they may have as they get started in ham radio. Critics also say that releasing this horde on the amateur bands will create nothing but chaos. Fortunately, I've personally seen no evidence that the hundreds of folks that have taken these classes across the country have created said chaos. Make Your Next Class a One-Day Class I would encourage you to give this a try. Make your next Tech class a one-day class. You don't conduct Tech classes? Well, get started! Another benefit of the one-day class format is that it's easier to find teachers since it takes less time for them, too. As I mentioned previously, over the past year, I've taught two "ham cram" classes. We've learned a few things along the way. Perhaps the most important thing is to stress that students should study the material before coming to class. The study guide we use is one that I've written. You can find the KB6NU No-Nonsense Study Guide online at <http://www.kb6nu.com>. You can also purchase a pre-printed version of the study guide at [www.booklocker.com/books/3408.html](http://www.booklocker.com/books/3408.html). Another key is not to get bogged down on a particular topic. Our class runs from 9 am to 3 p.m., at which time, the VEs come in and give the test. To cover all of the material, you have to keep one eye on the clock and

keep plowing ahead. To help you do this, a set of PowerPoint slides for teachers of Ham Cram Tech classes is available at <http://w9pe.us/>. We conducted our first class last August. Nine out of twelve passed the test that day; the remaining three passed on their second attempt. In early May, we taught our second one-day class. This time, eleven out of twelve passed. In September, we held our third class and thirteen out of fourteen passed. I am encouraged by these results, and I am planning to make these one-day classes a regularly scheduled event here in Ann Arbor. Time will tell if these people become active, life-long hams, but so far, so good. If you have any questions about our experience with the one-day class, please e-mail me at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

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A rectangular banner with a rainbow gradient background. The text "PPRAA October License Exam Results" is centered in a bold, black, serif font.

## PPRAA October License Exam Results

**5 Technician Class 2 General Class**

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A rectangular banner with a light green background and a dark green border. The text "DITS & BITS" is centered in a bold, black, serif font.

## DITS & BITS

**For Sale:**





This is my Icom IC-740 and I am asking \$200.00. The only thing wrong is the RIT push button is missing but the button still works, you just have to use a pen to push it on. I also have the matching speaker and the owners' manual. The face plate looks very good and of course there are rub marks on the case but nothing broken or no deep marks, just normal wear. The radio is probably a 1980's and the mic is just a stock hand mic. I've had the radio checked on ten meters with two hams, Steve Sawyer, KTØDX, and Dick Thompson, WØRAA. Both said the radio sounds good. You can contact me, Mike, at N0mud at arrl.net or N0mud at aol.com my home phone is 719-597-1906. If no answer just leave a message.

I have a TS-440SAT with shop and user manual. Hand Mike and desk mike. \$300 or best offer. Just had it refurbished and it works great. It would be an inexpensive Starter Rig. It was replaced by the K3. The maintenance cost me \$150 about 4 months ago.

Contact Information  
Dennis Rosas AC0IV  
e-mail [n0udr@gmail.af.mil](mailto:n0udr@gmail.af.mil)  
My Telephone # is 719-640-0148

## New Years Resolution

The New Year 2009 is just around the corner. For something different make one ham resolution. Pick just one thing in amateur radio you would like to do and use all year 2009 to achieve it. Send in to Ø-Beat your resolution and from time to time an update on how you are doing to.

## Thursday Night Net Clarification

Last month we announced a Thursday night 10-meter net on 28.4 MHz at 7 pm. It was announced that the net would take place in the AM mode, but rules and Regulations only allow Generals and higher to use AM in that segment of the band. Unfortunately, Techs and Novices, even though they have phone Privileges there, can only operate SSB phone. Therefore, the net should start out in SSB mode, then move to AM or FM with only the Generals and higher. The PPRAA does not want to be contributing to anyone earning a pink slip from the FCC for violating this rule unintentionally. See 97.305(c) and 97.307(f)(10) for the rules."

**PPRAA BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 13<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**PPRAA Club Meeting**

8 October 2008

President Doug N7LEM called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM at Panera Bread, followed by introductions around the room.

**Silent Keys:** None.

**Minutes:** Les KCØNC/Dennis AC0IV moved/seconded that the August meeting minutes be approved as printed in the Zero Beat. Passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dennis NØABC reported that we had a \$11010.07 total balance in our three accounts as of 8 Oct 2008. CMRG finally deposited their \$2K check for the D-STAR system.

**Committee Reports**

**COQP**

Doug N7LEM - This event was held September 20 with very good results. Logs are due in by October 20. Over 80 logs have already been submitted.

**HamCon 2009**

Dan WØRO – our club will be operating the talk-in station at this event. We will need volunteers to staff

this operation. Date is the last weekend in May 2009.

**MegaFest 2009**

Rob N7LV – the final date is still pending, expected to be a weekend in July, due to separate it from HamCon. Rob N7LV/WØTOM moved/seconded to request authorization for the money to buy the raffle prizes (not to exceed \$3000) and pay for facility rental (not to exceed \$800). Passed. We will be upgrading the quality level of the prizes and will be getting a D-STAR radio for one of the prizes.

**Salvation Army Holiday Support**

Volunteers are needed for ham radio communications for the Community Holiday Dinners. Please contact [KC0NAJ@arrl.net](mailto:KC0NAJ@arrl.net) if you can help with this activity. Operators are needed at six sites. This request comes from Alma Scott, the Colorado Springs Salvation Army Volunteer Coordinator.

**Thursday Night Net**

Dan ACØCC see PPRAA for details. We are trying some new modes of operation. The net starts at 8 PM on Thursdays on 145.55 MHz, 2M, AM mode. Also they will try out 10M FM mode. This signal is reported to be very good in CS.

## Elections

Tom WØTOM moved/Rob N7LV seconded to accept the nominations as posted.

The following people were elected.

President: Doug Nielsen N7LEM

Vice President: Dave Moore KØDAM

Secretary: John Wishart KCØJFH

Treasurer: Dennis Rosas ACØIV

Board member: Dan Scott WØRO

**Next Club Meeting:** 7 PM, second Wednesday, 12 November 2008, at a location to be determined.

**Next Board Meeting:** 7 PM, Monday following club meeting, 17 November, at the Stetson Hills Police Substation, 4110 Tutt Blvd.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Submitted by:

John Wishart KCØJFH

PPRAA Secretary

26 November 2008

## PPRAA AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE EXAMINATIONS

The **PPRAA/VE** team holds testing sessions at 9 AM at the Colorado Technical University, 4435 North Chestnut (just west of I-25 and just south of Garden of the Gods Rd).

**Exam fee:** \$14.00 for Elements 2, 3, and/or 4, payable to ARRL/VEC.

No same-day retakes of same element. Walk-ins allowed; pre-registration not necessary.

**BRING:** Photo ID, original and copy of valid ham license and/or valid CSCE, and FRN for licensed hams.

### Contact:

Jackie Cornwell ACØCA at 719-632-8254 or [email](mailto:ACØCA@arrl.net) at ACØCA@arrl.net

**Online:** [ppraa.org](http://ppraa.org) or [arrl.org](http://arrl.org).

## Mark your calendars:

**Dec. 13**

**Mountain Amateur Radio  
Club (MARC)  
November 2008  
Amateur Licensing  
Session .**

The November MARC VE Session will be **Second Saturday, November 8th, 2008** on **Saturday at 10 am**, in the Community Meeting Room, in the Community Meeting

Room in the Woodland Park Library, 218 East Midland Avenue. The MARC VE Team is affiliated with the ARRL/VEC and examinations for all classes of license will be offered. We will be back on our normal schedule (First Saturday of odd months) for our January session.

If attending, please BE SURE to bring the following items to the session:

1. A valid PHOTO ID, driver's license preferred (if you do not have a valid photo ID, please call for alternative identification requirements).
2. Your SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (now required, this includes children).
3. Your ORIGINAL amateur radio license (if any) AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
4. The ORIGINAL of any relevant CSCEs you may have AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
5. Cash, Check or Money Order for \$14 (standard ARRL VE Fee). Checks and money orders should be made out to MARC and cover all different exams you wish to take at the VE session.

MARC VE Team policy, as with many VE Teams, is to not allow same day retests on failed exams.

Full information, including driving directions to the Woodland Park Library, is available under "VE Sessions" on the MARC website at

<http://www.nx0g.org/ve.html> or contact Wes Wilson (KØHBZ) at [k0hzbz@arrl.net](mailto:k0hzbz@arrl.net), or call (719) 687-8758.

For already licensed hams and MARC members should be monitoring the MARC repeater system 146.820- or 448.650- (both 107.2 Hz) if you need help with talk-in.

73 Wes KØHBZ, MARC VE Team

### **Jess Miley KØTAA**

719 W. 7<sup>th</sup>, Florence, CO 81226  
Amateur & Hobby Radio Products.  
We Trade.

Excellent Tech @ \$35 per hour  
Commercial rates higher / 719-784-3040  
***Please call before you drive.***

### **NONPROFIT STATUS**

The PPRAA is a federal 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and welcomes all contributions. Your contributions or donations may be tax-deductible.

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

All memberships are up for renewal at the end of the year. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please use the form at the bottom of this page, and fill out all of the appropriate information so that the Membership Committee can update the records. Include your family so they can share the value and the fun. If you know someone interested in joining, make a copy for them or have them visit PPRAA on the web and download a copy of the PDF file at [www.qsl.net/ppraa/membership.html](http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/membership.html).

Membership Application for the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc. P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521	
Date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	In which activities would you like to participate?
Name: _____	Field Day <input type="checkbox"/>
Address: _____	Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/>
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	Nets or round tables <input type="checkbox"/>
Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E Phone: _____	Organize activities <input type="checkbox"/>
Mbr of ARRL? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No E-mail: _____	Teach ham classes <input type="checkbox"/>
Additional Family Members to Join/Renew:	Full Member \$15: <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____	Family Membership \$18: <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____	Over 65 \$10: <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____	Over 65 Family \$12: <input type="checkbox"/>
	Associate \$12: <input type="checkbox"/>
	Ø-Beat Only \$12: <input type="checkbox"/>
	Donation to Club: \$ _____
	Total Enclosed: _____
	<b><u>MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u></b>
Please indicate how you'd like your Ø-Beat delivered: <input type="checkbox"/> Standard hardcopy via U.S. Mail	
(Defaults to standard hard copy in the event that NO check boxes are checked) <input type="checkbox"/> As a PDF file attachment via e-mail, to help save a few bucks	
<input type="checkbox"/> I'll save the club a few bucks and download it from the Web!	
Circle your interests ⇨ HF / V/UHF / FM / SSB / Digital / DX / Contests / Technical / Hardware / Other _____	
New and renewing members must submit a completed application form along with your check to the Treasurer. <b>Please Type or Print Clearly!</b>	



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**Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 16521  
Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521 USA**

**To:**